

Dated: Oct. 15, 2004
From: Robert W. Clark
To: Director, Federal Communications Commission

I am outraged about Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election, and urge you to block this violation of the public trust that Sinclair committed themselves to in order to receive their broadcasting licence.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

I am counting on you to stand up for the public interest against this corruption of broadcasting rules.

Thank you.

Robert W. Clark, Ph.D.